

Amendment
U.S. Patent Application S.N. 10/713,418
Page 7 of 8

Remarks:

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to recite that the engaging arm lies along a plane that is offset from and parallel to the vertical leg of the latch. This distinguishes the claimed invention from the Boyce reference, where the engaging arm lies along a plane that is perpendicular to the vertical leg. It also distinguishes the claimed invention from the Hashemi reference, in which the entire latch lies along the same plane. Claims 1 and 10 do not require the engaging arm itself to be planar, only requiring it to extend in the direction defined by a plane that is offset from the vertical leg.

Claim 6 has not been further amended.

Claim 6 was rejected based on a combination of Boyce and Hashemi. The rejection states that the U-shaped projection 12 of Boyce is the front face of the cabinet as recited in the claim. However, claim 6 recites that the front face defines an opening and that the drawer is "movable in a front-to-back direction through said opening". If the U-shaped projection 12 of Boyce is the front face of the cabinet, then the drawer of Boyce does not move through the opening defined by the U-shaped projection 12 as required in claim 6. The front face of the cabinet of Boyce which does define the opening through which the drawer moves is not numbered, but it lies directly in front of the U-shaped projection. Boyce does not provide a latch that latches against that front face as claimed. Hashemi also does not suggest such an arrangement, since Hashemi latches against a stopping post 48 that lies inside the track. The invention recited in claim 6 is neither taught nor suggested by the Boyce and Hashemi references, neither of which suggests a latch mounted to the inner surface of the drawer which is movable in a front-to-back direction through an opening defined by a front face, wherein the latch receives the front face and stops the movement of the drawer both when the drawer is being opened and when it is being closed.

Amendment
U.S. Patent Application S.N. 10/713,418
Page 8 of 8

Since all the claims recite an invention that is both novel and unobvious in view of the prior art, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all the claims. If there are any further problems that need to be resolved, Applicant's attorney would appreciate a phone call from the Examiner in order to help expedite their resolution.

Respectfully submitted,



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